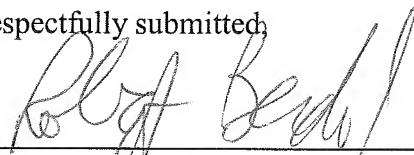


REMARKS / STATEMENT

These remarks supplement those presented in the last-filed amendment, in which Applicants had amended claims 7, 8, 11, 12, 14-17 and 19 and canceled claims 4-6, 13 and 18 from further consideration in this application. In making these changes Applicants were not conceding in this application that those claims are not patentable over the art cited by the Examiner, as the claim amendments and cancellations were only for facilitating expeditious prosecution of the allowable subject matter noted by the Examiner. Applicants respectfully reserve the right to pursue these and other claims in one or more continuations and/or divisional patent applications.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date

RHB/vm